Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, HU, CH, GN, UR

SUBJ: HUNGARY STEPS UP ANTI-CHINESE PRESS ATTACKS

REF: WARSAW 777

1. SUMMARY: A SERIES OF ARTICLES CRITICAL OF COMMUNIST CHINA HAVE APPEARED OVER PAST TWO WEEKS IN LEADING HUNGARIAN DAILIES, E.G. NEPSZABADSAG, MAGYAR HIRLAP, MAGYAR NEMZET. COMMON THREADS RUNNING THROUGH FABRIC OF THESE ARTICLES ARE: (1) POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN PRC HAS CLOSED WITH A TEMPORARY COMPROMISE WHICH SEEMS TO FAVOR CHOU EN-LAI; (2) IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WRANGLING IN THE LEADERSHIP BREAKS OUT AGAIN; AND (3) PRC IS CONNIVING WITH REACTIONARY ELEMENTS IN WEST (E.G. FRG'S STRAUSS) AGAINST USSR AND ITS POLICY OF DETENTE. END SUMMARY.

2. BUDAPEST DAILY MAGYAR HIRLAP JAN 24, IN COMMENTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA, NOTES THAT THE CAMPAIGN OF

CRITICISM APPARENTLY DIRECTED AGAINST CONFUCIUS WAS REALLY DIRECTED AGAINST CHOU EN-LAI. PAPER MAINTAINS THAT IN RECENT DAYS SOME CHANGES HAVE OCCURED IN THIS FIELD. POSTERS CRITICIZING LIN PIAO AND CONFUCIUS HAVE BECOME LESS FREQUENT AND NOW MOST OF THEM CALL FOR UNITY, DISCIPLINE, AND MEETING PRODUCTION GOALS. MAGYAR HIRLAP SUGGESTS THAT RELATIVE QUIET, CONVENING OF PARLIAMENT, CONTENTS OF NEW CONSTITUTION, AND COMPOSITION OF NEW GOVERNMENT ALL INDICATE THAT POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN PRC HAS CLOSED WITH TEMPORARY COMPROMISE SEEMINGLY FAVORABLE TO CHOU EN-LAI. PAPER ADDS, HOWEVER, THAT ALTHOUGH 78-YEAR-OLD AILING HEAD OF GOVERNMENT HAS GROWN STRONGER IN HIS POSITION, IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE OPPOSITION, MAINLY OF YOUNGER GENERATION, WILL OPEN FIRE AGAINST HIM AGAIN.

- 3. ON CHOU EN-LAI'S REPORT ON FOREIGN POLICY AT 4TH
 NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS, BUDAPEST PAPER POINTS OUT
 THAT INSTEAD OF A PENETRATING ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL
 SITUATION, CHOU'S COMMENTS EXPRESSED "CHIEFLY DAYDREAMS OF PEKING LEADERSHIP IN FORM OF FALSELY
 RADIANT OPTIMISM AND SERIOUSLY MEANT PROPHECIES",
 ALL THIS AFTER INTRODUCTORY PORTION HAS STATED THAT
 INTERNATIONAL SITUATION IS STILL CHARACTERIZED BY GREAT
 CHAOS. FROM ALL THIS, SAYS MAGYAR HIRLAP, CHINESE HEAD
 OF GOVERNMENT ARRIVES AT CONCLUSION THAT WAR IS INEVITABLE.
 THERE IS NO REASON TO GIVE CREDENCE TO THE THESIS OF
 INEVITABILITY OF WORLD WAR, THE PAPER DECLARES, ADDING
 THAT REALITIES OF PRESENT ERA INDICATE THAT PROCESS OF
 INTERNATIONAL DETENTE IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY
 IRREVERSIBLE.
- 4. FERENC VARNAI, NEPSZABADSAG'S SINOLOGIST, ON JAN 25 REPEATED MANY OF MAGYAR HIRLAP'S COMMENTS WHILE UNDERSCORING POINT THAT CHOU EN-LAI'S SPEECH MAKES IT CLEAR THAT "THERE IS UNFORTUNATELY NO CHANGE IN ANTI-SOVIET POLITICAL TREND" AND THAT "FOREIGN POLICY DICTATED BY NATIONALIST-CHAUVINIST EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE". LATER, ON JAN 31 M PSZABADSAG REFERRED TO APPOINTMENTS OF R

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ECE HSIAO-PING AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY AND CHANG CHUN-CHIAO AS HEAD OF THE MAIN POLITICAL DIRECTORATE AS INDICATIVE OF A TEMPORARY RESUMPTION OF BALANCE IN THE CHINESE POWER STRUGGLE. NEPSZABADSAG CLAIMS THAT MAO ENGINEERED APPOINTMENT OF THESE TWO PERSONALITIES TO KEY POSITIONS IN ARMY AS A DEVICE TO DELAY CLASH BETWEEN TWO RIVALS WHILE AT SAME TIME HE HAD CONSTITUTION ALTERED SO AS TO NAME HIMSELF

AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF ARMY.

5. MAGYAR HIRLAP ON FEB 2 COMMENTS ON VISIT OF WEST GERMAN CD LEADER GERHARD STRAUSS TO PEKING, ARGUING THAT ANTI-SOVIET POLITICIANS IN WEST FLIRT WITH CHINA INTENDING TO EXERCISE PRESSURE ON SOVIET UNION AND ITS ALLIES WITH POLITICAL CONCESSIONS IN MIND. CHINESE LEADERS, PAPER CLAIMS, SEEK TO PROVOKE TROUBLE IN SOVIET UNION

AND OBSERVES THAT THUS EACH JIGFE. LQST
AND PRC) TRIES TO MAKE USE OF OTHER FOR HIS OWN AIMS.
PAPER NOTES THAT WHILE STRAUSS POLICY IS NOT A
DOMINANT TREND IN WEST NOR IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS,
STILL IT HAS SOME INFLUENCE UPON INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS. ELEMENTS OF FEAR AND AGGRESSION IN STRAUSS
CONCEPT, ONCE THEY BECOME EFFECTIVE, MIGHT PUSH
EUROPE BACK INTO AN AGE OF DANGEROUS TENSIONS. THIS
IS THE POINT, PAPER DECLARES, WHERE STRAUSS CONCEPT
CONVERGES WITH CHINESE IDEAS. ONLY A YEAR AGO PEKING
MAINTAINED THAT SOVIET UNION INTENDED TO ATTACK CHINA.
TODAY, ACCORDING TO MAGYAR HIRLAP, IT SEEMS THERE IS
NO NEED ANY LONGER FOR SUCH A GHOST STORY ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE BECAUSE THERE IS MUCH MORE PROMISE IN
TRYING TO FRIGHTEN WESTERN EUROPE.

6. MAGYAR NEMZET SAME DAY ARGUES THAT MOST EXTREME WING OF MAOIST LEADERSHIP, "ULTRA-RADICALS", HAS NOT LOST EVEN ONE OF POSITIONS IT HELD BEFORE AND TREND TOWARDS CONSOLIDATING ITS PLACES IN APPARATUS OF CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY CONTINUES UNCHANGED. PAPER SAYS THAT FACT THAT SUPREME ARMY COMMAND HAS BEEN PLACED IN HANDS OF CHAIRMAN MAO WILL WORK TO DECISIVE ADVANTAGE OF THIS WING IN LATER STRUGGLES FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUCCESSION.

7. COMMENT: IN CONTRAST TO ANTI-CHINA ARTICLES IN POLISH PRESS (REFTEL, THERE IS NO HINT THAT HUNGARY'S OWN VITAL INTERESTS ARE DIRECTLY THREATENED BY PRC POLICIES. RATHER IT IS CHINESE ANTI-DETENTE, ANTI-SOVIET POLICIES WHICH DISRUPT THE PEACEFUL FOREIGN POLICY OF USSR WITH WHICH HUNGARY IS SOLIDLY ALIGNED. ONE NEWSPAPER SOURCE REPORTS THAT SECRECY SURROUNDING 4TH NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS AND SHORTNESS OF SESSIONS INDICATE THAT SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES PERSIST IN CHINESE LEADERSHIP AND THAT IT WILL NOT, RPT NOT, BE LONG BEFORE THEY RE-EMERGE. SAME SOURCE EXPECTS TENG TO EVENTUALLY SUCCEED CHOU EN-LAI. MUDD

Margaret P.	Grafeld D	eclassifie)	d/Release	ed US D	Departmen	t of St	ate EO	Systematic	Review	05 J	UL 2006

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